

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1954

Issued by the Government Statistician (Mr. R. J. Little), Perth

15 JUN 1954

2nd June, 1954

This report gives particulars relative to the following items:-

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POPULATION ESTIMATES

Whole State at 31st December, 1953 -

Males - 326,935

Females - 306,596

Persons - 633,531

Metropolitan Area at 31st December, 1953 -

Persons - 358,000

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

	MARCH		3 Months Ended MARCH	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Marriages -Number	484	426	1,410	1,304
*Rate per 1000 of Population	8.95	8.13	9.01	8.58
Births - Number	1,343	1,341	3,737	4,005
*Rate per 1000 of Population	24.84	25.58	23.87	26.36
Deaths - Number	374	388	1,154	1,114
*Rate per 1000 of Population	6.92	7.40	7.37	7.33
Infant - Number	24	39	74	103
Mortality *Rate per 1000 Live Births	17.87	29.08	19.80	25.72
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH -				
Tuberculosis	4	5	6	14
Malignant neoplasms	75	74	201	190
Diabetes mellitus	1	4	11	10
Diseases of blood etc.	1	2	7	4
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	39	34	136	103
Diseases of the heart	102	103	316	335
Hypertension with heart disease	6	10	31	33
Hypertensive disease without mention of heart	5	2	17	13
Arteriosclerosis	15	13	40	31
Influenza	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	6	8	29	31
Bronchitis	1	4	7	7
Other respiratory disease	5	2	15	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	3	10	10
Gastro-enteritis and colitis	2	2	11	9
Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis	1	1	4	3
Cirrhosis of the liver	2	1	3	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	5	17	10
Diseases of the prostate	-	-	5	8
Maternal causes	-	-	1	2
Diseases of early infancy	16	25	41	60
Motor vehicle accidents	12	22	38	43
Other accidents	28	15	67	50
Suicide	5	4	20	11
All other causes	42	49	121	127
Total.	374	388	1,154	1,114

* Equivalent Annual Rate.

* Deaths under one year.

LAND SETTLEMENT

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the four months ended April, 1954 totalled 319,440 acres, a decrease of 125,554 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 1,364,859 acres, a decrease of 135,560

STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

	Month of APRIL		Ten Months Ended APRIL	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Revenue	4,174,246	3,849,800	33,632,235	30,465,253
Revenue per Head of Population	6. 11. 0	6. 4. 6	53. 7. 8	49. 18. 6
Expenditure	3,671,514	3,493,948	35,123,603	32,006,351
Expenditure per Head of Population	5. 15. 3	5. 13. 0	55. 15. 0	52. 9. 0

SAVINGS BANKS

Depositors' Balances on the 30th April, 1954 amounted to £51,252,692 or £80. 7. 11d. per head of population as against £48,555,705 or £78. 8. 4d. per head as at the 30th April last year.

BANK CLEARANCES

The average weekly clearance for the 4 weeks ended 28th April, 1954 amounted to £13,788,586 compared with £12,119,875 for the corresponding period last year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds		APRIL		10 Months Ended APRIL	
		1954	1953	1954	1953
Transfers	No.	2,182	1,806	20,269	16,890
	£.	3,603,182	2,384,442	29,940,434	19,929,990
Mortgages	No.	1,713	1,404	16,698	12,600
	£.	2,839,570	2,141,578	26,588,150	18,193,667
Discharges of Mortgages	No.	1,175	965	10,880	9,093

SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT GOODS AND TAX COLLECTED

Period of Receipt of Returns	Taxable Goods		Sales of Exempt Goods	Tax Collected
	Sales in respect of which Tax is Payable (Net)	Sales in respect of which Tax is NOT Payable (Gross)		
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Ten months ended APRIL, 1954	33,721,526	21,613,210	78,910,484	4,866,877
Ten months ended APRIL, 1953	29,050,868	21,225,162	69,337,674	4,441,204
Month of APRIL, 1954	3,763,233	1,964,849	8,810,825	509,670
Month of APRIL, 1953	2,879,148	2,104,516	7,037,153	438,022

COMPANIES REGISTERED

162 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £13,030,003 and 63 Foreign Companies were registered during the ten months ended April, 1954. Registrations for the corresponding period last year comprised 101 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £5,939,600 and 53 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY

	Ten Months Ended APRIL -					
	1954			1953		
	No.	Liabilities	Assets	No.	Liabilities	Assets
		£.	£.		£.	£.
Sequestration Orders	41	121,727	83,314	33	118,907	58,143
Deeds of Assignment (a)	16	69,401	88,546	21	158,149	185,128
Deeds of Arrangement	-	-	-	-	-	-

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT

The operations of the State Government Railways, open for General and Passenger traffic, were as follows:-

	MARCH		9 Months Ended MARCH	
	1954	1953	1954	1953 /
Gross Earnings (a) * £.	1,308,500	809,500	8,349,100	5,555,200
Working Expenses (a) £.	1,207,715	1,256,772	10,212,135	8,843,711
Train Miles Run No.	617,339	545,470	5,362,160	3,636,156
Motor Bus Miles Run No.	(b) 136,880	(b) 149,636	(c) 1,381,765	(c) 1,466,971
Passenger Journeys -				
Train No.	745,026	556,327	6,389,145	4,255,320
Motor Bus No.	32,098	47,922	418,659	479,279
Tonnage Carried -				
Paying Goods	268,805	274,832	2,251,926	1,702,228
Livestock	8,810	10,536	100,586	104,226
Departmental (Free Freight)	79,255	75,131	584,499	454,352
<u>Total.</u>	356,870	360,499	2,937,011	2,260,806
Net Ton Mileage of -				
Paying Goods	45,788,474	43,566,974	383,777,922	265,498,926
Livestock	1,031,425	1,292,509	13,172,979	13,290,382
Departmental (Free Freight)	10,122,751	9,334,194	81,349,156	62,074,671
<u>Total.</u>	56,942,650	54,193,677	478,300,057	340,863,979

(a) Includes operations of the Railway Road Service.

(b) Four weeks ended 6th March.

(c) Period ended 6th March.

* Figures liable to revision.

/ Figures reflect Metal Trade Strike.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (EXCLUDING COMMONWEALTH-OWNED VEHICLES)

	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Year 1951	4,263	2,088	51	1,886	7,914	5,730	101	3,192
Year 1952	4,088	2,006	74	1,121	8,068	5,471	112	1,939
Year 1953	4,460	1,869	57	746	8,152	5,015	76	1,239
<u>1954 -</u>								
January	384	126	11	68	669	337	13	108
February	409	191	5	66	724	461	8	102
March	405	176	3	70	724	476	4	113

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS) /

Date (as at end of Month)	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
<u>1952 -</u>								
June	37,873	16,368	522	9,952	64,180	50,897	988	16,041
<u>1953 -</u>								
June	41,231	18,394	537	9,855	69,833	54,639	1,035	15,559
December	44,513	19,429	567	9,817	73,825	55,782	1,071	15,022
<u>1954 -</u>								
January	44,889	19,556	577	9,798	73,329	54,141	1,022	14,345
February	45,135	19,687	583	9,787	74,505	55,735	1,086	14,727
March	45,339	19,726	585	9,757	75,443	56,628	1,093	14,963

/ Excluding Commonwealth-Owned Vehicles which comprised for March, 1954:-
106 Cars: 748 Wagons, Vans, etc.; 7 Buses and 6 Motor Cycles.

TRADE (INTERSTATE AND OVERSEA)

Trade of Western Australia, March 1954 and 1953, and nine months ended March, 1954 and 1953, expressed in terms of Australian Currency:-

	IMPORTS				EXPORTS (Including Ships' Stores)			
	MARCH		9 Months ended MARCH		MARCH		9 Months ended MARCH	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Oversea	3,480	2,151	30,266	22,338	5,734	8,628	57,183	67,139
Interstate	5,799	4,912	59,247	49,714	1,064	2,073	14,872	18,481
Total.	9,279	7,063	89,513	72,052	6,798	10,701	72,055	85,620

BUILDING ACTIVITY

(1) NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED

Period	Dwellings				Factories		Other		Total	
	Owner-Built		By Contractors etc. (a)							
	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000
Year 1946	55	32	1,316	1,221	52	82	145	192	1,568	1,527
Year 1947	165	109	2,245	2,380	37	64	164	327	2,611	2,880
Year 1948	514	346	2,544	3,041	49	160	268	431	3,375	3,978
Year 1949	825	693	2,485	3,476	57	215	317	657	3,684	5,041
Year 1950	1,313	1,365	3,331	4,727	41	263	428	651	5,113	7,006
Year 1951	1,913	2,835	4,137	6,969	40	459	433	986	6,523	11,249
Year 1952	2,883	5,824	4,946	11,201	63	667	604	2,242	8,496	19,934
Year 1953	2,988	7,219	4,839	12,624	84	817	714	3,657	8,625	24,317
1954 -										
March Qr.	715	1,827	944	2,491	22	313	163	990	1,844	5,621

(a) Comprises Government Day Labour as well as Private Contractor operations, and includes Shop Dwellings, Flats and other Residentials excluded from Table (2) hereunder.

(2) HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

(Including Owner-Built Homes)

Houses Completed - Classified According to Materials of Outer Walls										
Brick, Stone, Concrete, etc.		Wood, or Mainly Wood		Fibro-Cement or mainly Fibro-Cement		Other Material		Total		
No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	
	£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000	
Year 1946	578	640	186	140	373	296	227	172	1,364	1,248
Year 1947	1,114	1,365	257	196	966	862	62	47	2,399	2,470
Year 1948	1,252	1,715	326	249	1,436	1,348	29	22	3,043	3,334
Year 1949	1,449	2,235	228	191	1,571	1,649	42	43	3,290	4,118
Year 1950	1,709	2,882	337	311	2,262	2,572	55	48	4,363	5,813
Year 1951	2,155	4,560	453	525	2,933	4,241	190	218	5,731	9,544
Year 1952	3,006	8,097	745	1,609	3,844	6,678	135	263	7,730	16,647
Year 1953	2,676	8,417	976	2,657	3,966	8,277	24	54	7,642	19,405
1954 - March Qr.	568	1,895	82	215	970	2,115	1	1	1,621	4,226

BUTTER PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES

202,960 lbs. were produced during April, 1954 and 12,495,685 lbs. for the ten months ended April, 1954, as against 201,244 lbs. and 13,112,673 lbs. respectively for the corresponding periods for 1953.

GOLD PRODUCTION

	APRIL		4 Months Ended APRIL	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Quantity Fine Ozs.	70,165	102,464	299,040	284,237
Value (Aust. Currency) * £.	1,086,977	1,587,337	4,632,595	4,403,298

* Excludes premium on gold sold for industrial purposes.

Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies for the four months ended April, 1954 amounted to £154,688. Dividends for the corresponding period of 1953 were £134,375.

	1954	1953	1954	1953
Quantity Fine Ozs.	70,165	102,464	299,040	284,237
Value (Aust. Currency) * £.	1,086,917	1,567,337	4,632,595	4,403,298

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RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

Base of Each Series: Weighted Average of Six Capitals for 1923/27 = 1000)

	Food and Groceries				"C" Series			
	MARCH QUARTER		Twelve Months Ended MARCH		MARCH QUARTER		Twelve Months Ended MARCH	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
Metropolitan Area	2731	2492	2668	2522	2348	2247	2320	2212
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	2852	2692	2778	2624	2407	2343	2377	2307
Northam	2737	2557	2675	2491	2360	2279	2336	2238
Bunbury	2782	2544	2696	2476	2376	2275	2339	2238
Geraldton	2816	2613	2749	2539	2473	2385	2443	2347
Collie	2804	2580	2727	2500	2265	2172	2235	2130

ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic)
Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician

Month	1953			1954		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
January	127,573	39,805	167,378	133,021	41,620	174,641
February	128,682	40,835	169,517	133,165	42,375	175,540
March	129,232	41,012	170,244			
April	129,666	41,211	170,877			
May	129,673	41,189	170,862			
June	130,185	41,029	171,214			
July	130,540	41,132	171,672			
August	130,351	41,296	171,647			
September	130,899	41,443	172,342			
October	131,392	41,824	173,216			
November	131,948	42,192	174,140			
December	132,572	42,634	175,206			

INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT (a)

Month	FACTORIES (Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees = 100))				
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
January	194	208	214	213	223
February	197	212	216	217	223
March	200	215	216	220	
April	200	215	215	221	
May	203	216	214	222	
June	202	215	211	220	
July	204	218	211	220	
August	204	217	212	220	
September	204	216	211	220	
October	206	217	212	221	
November	207	217	213	222	
December	207	215	213	223	

(a) Figures subsequent to June, 1953 are preliminary.

Date		Operator		Description		Amount		Balance	
1932	Jan								
	Feb								
	Mar								
	Apr								
	May								
	Jun								
	Jul								
	Aug								
	Sep								
	Oct								
	Nov								
	Dec								
Total									

STATE BASIC WAGE

Date of Operation	Metropolitan Area		South-West Land Division		Goldfields and Rest of State	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
27/7/53	12. 6. 6	8. 0. 3	12. 6. 0	7. 19. 11	12. 9. 4	8. 2. 1

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA
(Generated by W.A. Government Power Stations)

Particulars	APRIL		Ten Months Ended APRIL	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Units Generated (1000 K.W.H.)	33,712	29,365	328,229	287,232
Units Sent Out (1000 K.W.H.)	30,104	26,023	293,988	254,653

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Period	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
	No.	No.	No.	No.
April, 1954	7,950	308	68,271	7,824
April, 1953	6,098	241	74,724	7,245
10 Months ended April, 1954	89,264	4,608	917,082	88,900
10 Months ended April, 1953	73,252	5,271	1,231,203	96,395

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Month	Total Accidents Reported		Non-Casualty Accidents (Damage over £10)		Casualty Accidents		Persons Killed		Persons Injured	
	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try
1953 -	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
January	1,100	276	316	102	164	75	6	5	197	129
February	1,072	266	271	108	176	65	8	9	237	87
March	1,110	319	286	125	178	95	5	13	217	138
April	1,117	319	319	136	169	81	12	7	186	117
May	1,242	300	381	130	167	86	13	9	190	116
June	1,273	259	381	128	154	62	9	7	191	75
July	1,281	253	361	115	182	56	9	3	209	74
August	1,168	273	335	109	138	76	7	9	163	118
September	1,153	266	352	125	141	57	12	6	152	70
October	1,325	285	374	133	205	65	8	6	264	90
November	1,205	268	333	124	159	83	4	9	201	112
December	1,314	280	365	128	191	81	6	10	223	108
Total.	14,360	3,364	4,074	1,463	2,024	882	99	93	2,430	1,234

